

R E M A R K S

Claims 21-29 are pending in the present application. Claims 21-29 stand rejected.

The Examiner rejects claims 21-27 and 29 under the provisions of 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Appropriate clarification has been provided. The Applicants indicate that the "user data" is the second element of the data field. The claims as amended are believed to overcome this rejection. Removal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejects claims 21 and 28 under the provisions of 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 5,930,259 issued on July 27, 1999 to Y. Katsume et al. in view of US Patent 6,049,533 issued on April 11, 2000 to S. Norman et al. Claims 21 and 28, as amended, are believed allowable over Katsume and Norman for the following reasons.

Neither Katsume nor Norman nor any combination of these references suggest or disclose a first access point wirelessly communicating to end nodes and the first access point wirelessly communicating to a second access point. Further, neither of these references show a second access point simultaneously communicating with first access points and a wired network. The Applicants have amended claims 21 and 28 to include these limitations and as such, claims 21 and 28 are believed patentably distinct from Katsume and Norman.

The art does not disclose or suggest a second access point coupled to the first access point and further that the second access point is further coupled via wireline to a wired network. As a result of the above amendment, claims 21 and 28 are believed allowable over the art of record. The dependent claims are believed allowable by virtue of their dependence on an allowable base claim.

The Applicants note the art cited but applied by the Examiner.

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The Applicants note the art cited, but not relied upon by the Examiner.

No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein. No amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

The Applicants believe that the subject application, as amended, is in condition for allowance. Such action is earnestly solicited by the Applicants.

In the event that the Examiner deems the present application non-allowable, it is requested that the Examiner telephone the Applicant's attorney or agent at the number indicated below so that the prosecution of the present case may be advanced by the clarification of any continuing rejection.

Please charge any fees associated herewith, including extension of time fees, to 13-4771.

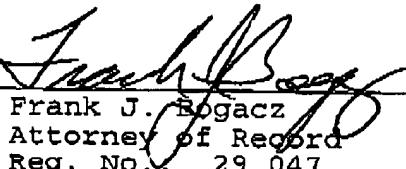
Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED UP VERSION OF CLAIMS AMENDED IN REWRITTEN FORM

CLAIMS

21. (AMENDED) A method for sending an IP packet to a physical end node [in an RF network] comprising the steps of:
creating the IP packet comprising:

a virtual [Internet] internet protocol address corresponding to a plurality of physical end nodes served by [an] a first access point; and

a data field comprising:

a destination identification corresponding to one of the physical end nodes of the plurality of physical end nodes, said one of the physical end nodes being a [that is the] destination for the IP packet; and

user data;

sending the IP packet over [the] a first RF network to the first access point;

wirelessly transmitting, by the first access point, the IP packet to a second access point;

alternatively transmitting by the first access point the IP packet to a second network, the second network being wired;

decoding, by the plurality of physical end nodes, the data field of the IP packet; and

determining by each of the plurality of physical end nodes whether it is the destination for the IP packet.

22. (AMENDED) The method of claim [2] 21 wherein the step of

determining is accomplished by each of the physical end nodes comparing their own identity with the destination identification in the user data of the IP packet.

23. (AMENDED) The method of claim [1] 21 further comprising the step of:

processing the IP packet by the physical end node that is the destination for the IP packet.

24. (AMENDED) The method of claim [1] 21 further comprising:

determining by the plurality of physical end nodes that are not the destination of the packet that the IP packet is not for them.

25. (AMENDED) The method of claim [4] 24 further comprising:

ignoring the IP packet by the physical end nodes that are not the destination of the packet.

26. (AMENDED) The method of claim [1] 21 wherein the step of sending is accomplished by using [Internet Protocol] internet protocol routing.

27. (AMENDED) The method of claim [1] 21 wherein the step of transmitting by the access point is transmitting by the access point via a wireless link.

28. (AMENDED) A RF network comprising:
a wired network;
a first access point connected to [a] the wired network and operable for communication via a first wireless link; [and]
a first plurality of physical end nodes communicating with the first access point via the first wireless link, sharing a first virtual internet protocol address and having separate identifications[.]; and
a second access point connected to the wired network and to the first access point via a second wireless link.

29. (AMENDED) The RF network of claim [9] 28 further comprising:

[a second access point connected to the wired network and operable to communication over a second wireless link; and]
a second plurality of physical end nodes communicating with the second access point via the second wireless link, sharing a second virtual internet protocol address and having separate identifications.